

Remarks

The applicants have discovered typographical discrepancies during a review of the application and requests that these amendments be entered to correct these minor formalities prior to issue as allowed by 37 C.F.R. § 1.312. Additionally, the applicants submit corrected drawings as requested by the Notice of Allowance mailed November 19, 2004.

Drawings

The Notice of Allowance indicated that corrected drawings should be submitted to clarify the images of Figures 3 and 4. The applicants have amended these drawings. In clarifying Figures 4 and 4A, each of these drawings required 2 sheets to ensure a clear image and to conform with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.84. Accordingly, Figure 4 was redesignated as Figures 4-1 and 4-2. Similarly, Figure 4A has been redesignated as Figures 4A-1 and 4A-2. In addition to the requested corrections to Figures 3 and 4, the applicants have corrected other informalities throughout the drawings such as hand-labeled figure numbers. The applicants submit the attached Figures 1-12 as formal drawings and assert that no new matter has been added to the drawings as originally filed.

Specification

The specification has been amended as written above to include the patent number for a related application that has issued since the current application was filed. Additionally, the specification has been amended to reflect the corrections that were made to the drawings. The applicant submits that these amendments do not add new matter or change the scope of the patent application in any manner, and request that they be entered prior to patent issue.


CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, the applicant respectfully requests that the amendments made to the present application be entered prior to patent issue, as allowed by 37 C.F.R. § 1.312. If the Examiner has any questions or comments concerning this matter, the Examiner is invited to contact the applicant's undersigned attorney at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD

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Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement sheets of drawings include Figures 1-12.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets